

CONGRESSMAN
MORGAN MCGARVEY

PROUDLY SERVING VETERANS IN KENTUCKY'S THIRD DISTRICT



H.R. 3981 – THE VETERANS EDUCATION OVERSIGHT EXPANSION ACT

CO-LEAD: REP. MIKE LEVIN (CA-49)

ENDORSEMENTS

The American Legion, Black Veterans Empowerment Council, Black Veterans Project, Blinded Veterans Association, Blue Star Families, Combined Arms, Common Defense, Disabled American Veterans, Military Family Advisory Network, Military-Veterans Advocacy, Modern Military Association of America, National Guard Association of the United States, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Service to School, Student Veterans of America, National Military Families Association, Veterans Education Success, Veterans for Common Sense, Veterans for Peace, and Vietnam Veterans of America.

BACKGROUND

Many of our Nation's veterans have earned federal support to help pay for college, graduate school, and training programs through their GI Bill education benefits. They can even transfer unused benefits to family members in certain cases. Unfortunately, some predatory programs have exploited veterans by aggressively attracting them and their GI Bill benefits to fraudulent, falsified, or substandard programs. The comprehensive Isakson and Roe Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 seeks to rein in these abuses by increasing the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) oversight capacity and restoring benefits to defrauded veterans. Representative McGarvey's Veterans Education Oversight Expansion Act builds on the successes of Isakson-Roe to improve oversight, foster accountability, and most of all, help our veterans access the quality education they have earned.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

This legislation has three components:

1) Section (a) Additional Requirement for Approval

Section (b) Additional Requirement for Approval of Nonaccredited Courses

Section (c) Additional Grounds for Suspension of Approval

- These three sections strengthen the reporting requirements of educational entities that are recipients of GI Bill education benefits. This bill would require educational entities to preemptively report any non-compliance within 30 days; schools that have not reported noncompliance and are found in violation of compliance may face additional penalties.*

2) Section (d) Restoration of Certain Education Benefits

- This section allows a veteran's GI Bill education benefits to be restored if an educational entity is found to have acted maliciously (e.g., scams by for-profit predatory colleges) or is otherwise found to be inadequate or ineligible under the discretion of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.*

3) Section (e) Deadline for Risk-Based Surveys Database

- This section requires the VA to create a previously mandated database of risk-based surveys within half a year (180 days). Risk-based surveys of educational entities receiving federal funds ensure that these programs are legitimate, accurately advertised, and properly serving their veteran populations.*

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